GLOBAL INVASIVE SPECIES DATABASE

FULL ACCOUNT FOR: ***Ficus microcarpus***

Ficus microcarpus **System:** Terrestrial

Kingdom	Phylum	Class	Order	Family
Plantae	Magnoliophyta	Magnoliopsida	Urticales	Moraceae

Common name rong shu (English, China), Vorhang-Feige (German), figueira-lacerdinha (Portuguese), laurel-da-ndia (Portuguese), laurel fig (English), Malay banyan (English), curtain fig (English), Chinese banyan (English)

Synonym *Ficus microcarpa* , var. *latifolia* (Miq.) Corner
Ficus nitida , auct.
Ficus retusa , auct.
Urostigma accedens , var. *latifolia* Miq.

Similar species

Summary *Ficus microcarpa* is a woody plant species that is native to the Asia-Pacific region. Commonly known as Chinese banyan and the laurel fig, it is a popular ornamental tree that grows in tropical and temperate regions of the world. *F. microcarpa* has small, tiny seeds that are easily spread by birds, bats and rodents, and which are capable of germinating almost anywhere they land - even in cracks in concrete. *F. microcarpa* is considered to be a major invasive species in Hawaii, the Bonin (Ogasawara) Islands, Florida, Bermuda and Central down to South America.

view this species on IUCN Red List

Notes
Ficus microcarpa specific pollinator wasps (*Parapristina verticillata*) have also been introduced to areas where *F. microcarpa* is cultivated, both intentionally (to aid the spread of the tree beyond cultivation) and unintentionally. *F. microcarpa* can also be propogated via cuttings and air layers. (Nadel & Frank 1992; Starr *et al.* 2003).

General Impacts
Ficus microcarpa can easily propogate on many surfaces, including on walls of buildings, on bridges, any cracks in concrete, and in the crevices of trees. If it is not removed *F. microcarpa* can cause structural damage to concrete and buildings, and will eventually strangle the host tree if it is growing as an epiphyte. *F. microcarpa* is a fast growing tree, and can also outshade native plant species. (KEW 2010; Wingate & Greene 2009).

Management Info
Ficus microcarpa is particularly susceptible to triclopyr herbicides, if applied as a basal or stump treatment. Small plants can be removed by hand, though they have a tendency to resprout. Plants growing on structures and as epiphytes should be treated when young, to prevent damage to the host structure or the eventual strangling of the host tree. (Starr *et al.* 2003; Wingate & Greene 2009).

Principal source:

Compiler: IUCN SSC Invasive Species Specialist Group (ISSG) with support from the Overseas Territories Environmental Programme (OTEP) project XOT603, a joint project with the Cayman Islands Government - Department of Environment

Review:

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[1] PUERTO RICO
[1] BERMUDA
[1] JAPAN
[2] UNITED STATES

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Managment information

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Summary: This compilation of information sources can be sorted on keywords for example: Baits & Lures, Non Target Species, Eradication, Monitoring, Risk Assessment, Weeds, Herbicides etc. This compilation is at present in Excel format, this will be web-enabled as a searchable database shortly. This version of the database has been developed by the IUCN SSC ISSG as part of an Overseas Territories Environmental Programme funded project XOT603 in partnership with the Cayman Islands Government - Department of Environment. The compilation is a work under progress, the ISSG will manage, maintain and enhance the database with current and newly published information, reports, journal articles etc.

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